

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled)

Claim 12 (New): A method for utilizing recovered magnesium ammonium phosphate particles in a biological treatment process comprising an anaerobic treatment and/or an aerobic treatment, the method comprising the steps:

recovering the magnesium ammonium phosphate particles from a treatment process for organic waste and/or waste water treatment, and

adding the recovered magnesium ammonium phosphate particles to an acid fermentation tank as an inorganic nutrient source in the biological treatment process.

Claim 13 (New): The method of claim 12, wherein the recovered magnesium ammonium phosphate particles have an average particle size of 0.5 mm or less.

Claim 14 (New): The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of dissolving the recovered magnesium ammonium phosphate particles in a treated liquid produced during the biological treatment, wherein pH of the treated liquid is adjusted to 10 or lower.

Claim 15 (New): The method of claim 12, wherein the treatment process for organic waste and/or waste water treatment is the biological treatment process comprising the anaerobic treatment and/or the aerobic treatment, and wherein the magnesium ammonium phosphate particles are recovered from a treated liquid produced during the biological treatment process.

Claim 16 (New): The method of claim 12, wherein the magnesium ammonium phosphate particles are recovered from a treated liquid produced during the biological treatment process, and wherein the recovered magnesium ammonium phosphate particles are recycled to the acid fermentation tank in the same biological treatment.

Claim 17 (New): A treatment apparatus utilizing recovered magnesium ammonium phosphate particles, the apparatus comprising an acid fermentation tank, wherein the magnesium ammonium phosphate particles are recovered from a treatment process for organic waste and/or waste water treatment, and the recovered magnesium ammonium phosphate particles are added to the acid fermentation tank as an inorganic source.

Claim 18 (New): A biological treatment apparatus for organic waste and/or waste water treatment comprising:

an acid fermentation tank;
an anaerobic treatment tank and/or an aerobic treatment tank provided downstream of the acid fermentation tank;
a magnesium ammonium phosphate formation tank for accepting a treated liquid in the anaerobic treatment tank and/or the aerobic treatment tank; and
a piping for circulating magnesium ammonium phosphate particles from the magnesium ammonium phosphate formation tank to the acid fermentation tank.

Claim 19 (New): The biological treatment apparatus of claim 18, wherein the acid fermentation tank is further provided with a means for adding a chemical containing magnesium, ammonium and/or phosphorous and/or a pH adjusting means.